

SEC. XX—MOTION

When a motion has been made, it is not to be put to the question or debated until it is seconded. *Scob.*, 21.

§ 392. Parliamentary law as to making, withdrawing, and reading of motions.

It is then, and not till then, in possession of the House, and can not be withdrawn but by leave of the House. It is to be put into writing, if the House or Speaker require it, and must be read to the House by the Speaker as often as any Member desires it for his information. 2 *Hats.*, 82.

The House has long since dispensed with the requirement of a second for ordinary motions (clause 1 of rule XVI; V, 5304); and the requirement of a second for a motion to suspend the rules was eliminated in the 102d Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 3, 1991, p. 39). Clause 2 of rule XVI provides further that a motion may be withdrawn before decision or amendment (see § 904, *infra*); and clause 1 of the same rule provides that the motion shall be reduced to writing on the demand of any Member (see § 902, *infra*). In the practice of the House, when a paper on which the House is to vote has been read once, the reading may not be required again unless the House shall order it read (V, 5260).

It might be asked whether a motion for adjournment or for the orders of the day can be made by one Member while another is speaking? It can not. When two Members offer to speak, he who rose first is to be heard, and it is a breach of order in another to interrupt him, unless by calling him to order if he departs from it. And the question of order being decided, he is still to be heard through. A call for adjournment, or for the order of the day, or for the question, by gentle-

§ 393. Interruptions of the Member having the floor.

men from their seats, is not a motion. No motion can be made without rising and addressing the Chair. Such calls are themselves breaches of order, which, though the Member who has risen may respect, as an expression of impatience of the House against further debate, yet, if he chooses, he has a right to go on.

§ 394. Members required to rise to make motions, call for the order of business, etc.

The House has modified the principle that the Member who seeks recognition first is to be recognized (clause 2 of rule XVII), and, in the 115th Congress, removed requirements that a Member rise to seek recognition (sec. 2(e), H. Res. 5, Jan. 3, 2017, p. __); but in other respects the principles of this paragraph are in force.

SEC. XXI—RESOLUTIONS

When the House commands, it is by an “order.” But fact, principles, and their own opinions and purposes, are expressed in the form of resolutions.

§ 395. Orders and resolutions of the House.

A resolution for an allowance of money to the clerks being moved, it was objected to as not in order, and so ruled by the Chair; but on appeal to the Senate (*i.e.*, a call for their sense by the President, on account of doubt in his mind, according to clause 5 of rule XXII) the decision was overruled. *Jour., Senate, June 1, 1796*. I presume the doubt was, whether an allowance of money could be made otherwise than by bill.

In the modern practice concurrent resolutions have been developed as a means of expressing fact, principles, opinions, and purposes of the two Houses (II, 1566, 1567). Joint committees are authorized by resolutions of this form (III, 1998, 1999), and they are used in authorizing correction of bills agreed to by both Houses (VII, 1042), amendment of enrolled bills (VII, 1041), amendment of conference reports (VIII, 3308), requests

§ 396. Concurrent resolutions of the two Houses.